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Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, be attentive to our prayers. Test our thoughts and examine our hearts, as we seek Your wisdom to solve the problems in our Nation and world.

Guide our Senators' thoughts and words so that their speech will glorify You. May their speech engender a spirit of cooperation and a willingness to discover ways to accomplish multiple goals for the common good. Lord, lead them away from divisive rhetoric that provides fuel for chaos and discord.

Shepherd of love, we pray each day to You because we know You will answer our prayers. Continue to show us Your unfailing love in Your constructive and wonderful ways.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOKER). The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

BRING JOBS HOME ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 453, S. 2569.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 453, S. 2569, a bill to provide an incentive for businesses to bring jobs back to America.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following my remarks and those of the Republican leader, the Senate will be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, which will run until 10:45. The time will be divided in the usual form between the two leaders or their designees. At 10:45 the Senate will proceed to a series of three rollcall votes: cloture on Andre Birotte to be a judge in California; Robin Rosenberg to be a judge in Florida; and John deGravelles to be a judge in Louisiana. Following the cloture vote on deGravelles, the time until 12:30 will be equally divided and controlled in the usual form. The Senate will recess from 12:30 to 2:15 to allow for our weekly caucus meetings. If cloture is invoked on any of the previous nominations, at 2:15 the Senate will begin a series of votes on those nominations.

FAIR SHOT AGENDA

Over the past several months, Americans have heard Democrats speak at length about giving working families a fair shot. What do we mean by a "fair shot"? A fair shot is about making sure Americans have jobs and good jobs. It is about ensuring that workers receive fair, livable wages so they can put a roof over their heads and take care of their kids and actually put food on the table, make the rent payments, car payments. A fair shot is the idea that each hard-working American deserves

an opportunity to achieve a measure of prosperity. But it all begins with a job.

As Senators, it is imperative that we not only promote job growth but also protect the jobs constituents already have. That is why the legislation before the Senate, the Bring Jobs Home Act, is so vitally important. It protects American jobs and encourages future job creation within our borders.

Over the last decade, the last 10 years, our country has been hemorrhaging jobs. American companies have outsourced 2½ million jobs. Outsource—that means ship them overseas. Two and a half million jobs that were here are now overseas, but these losses could potentially skyrocket if we do not address the disturbing trend of outsourcing. Twenty-one million Americans, including 7 million manufacturing workers, are at risk of having their jobs shipped overseas at any time—the risk of losing their fair shot. Almost 150,000 at-risk workers live in Nevada. The home State of my friend from Kentucky could also be on the chopping block to the tune of 235,000 jobs. For the Presiding Officer's State of New Jersey, outsourcing means the loss of 588,000 jobs in New Jersey.

When millions of Americans are looking for work in a recovering economy, few things could be more important than protecting good-paying middle-class jobs.

Every time an American company closes a factory or a plant in America and moves operations to another country, taxpayers pick up part of that moving bill. It is hard to comprehend that, but that is the way our law now exists. We want to change that. That is what the legislation before this body is all about. The Bring Jobs Home Act would end senseless tax breaks for outsourcers. It would end the absurd practice of American taxpayers bankrolling the outsourcing of their very own jobs.

The Bring Jobs Home Act also seeks to bring jobs back to America. This bill

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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